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July 8, 2004

Submission under 37 C.F.R. §312

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 10, wherein the at least one other polyol present in addition to xylitol is selected from the group consisting of mannitol and lactitol.

3. - 4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 10, wherein the at least one other polyol is mannitol; lactitol; or mannitol and lactitol.

6. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 5, wherein the ratio of xylitol to mannitol is 90:10 to 98:2.

7. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 5, wherein the ratio of xylitol to lactitol is 90:10 to 98:2.

8. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 5, wherein the xylitol:mannitol:lactitol ratio is between 90:1:9 or 90:9:1 and 98:1:1.

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9. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 10, wherein where in the directly compressible tableting aid has a water content of less than 1% by weight.

10. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a directly compressible tableting aid comprising a xylitol content of more than 90% by weight and a content of at least one other polyol of less than 10% by weight, produced by dissolving the xylitol in a solvent and spray drying or fluidized bed granulating, comprising:

- a) producing an aqueous solution by dissolving xylitol and at least one other polyol, the resulting mixture having a xylitol content of more than 90% by weight based on the total polyol content,
- b1) spraying the resulting mixture in a stream of air at a temperature of from 120°C to 300°C, evaporation of the water taking place, or
- b2) fluidizing the resulting mixture in a stream of air at a temperature of from 30°C to 110°C, evaporation of the water taking place, and
- c) isolating the tableting aid.

11. - 18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 5, wherein the ratio of xylitol to mannitol is in a range between 90:10 to 95:5.

20. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 5, wherein the ratio of xylitol to lactitol is in a range between 90:10 to 95:5.

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21. - 22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a tablet composition, comprising:

making an aqueous solution of xylitol and at least one other polyol, the resulting solution having a xylitol content of more than 90% by weight based on the total polyol content,

- b1) spraying the resulting mixture in a stream of air at a temperature of 120°C - 300°C, evaporation of the water taking place, or
- b2) fluidizing the resulting mixture in a stream of air at a temperature of 30°C - 110°C, evaporation of the water taking place, and
- c) isolating the tableting aid.

24. - 25. (Canceled)

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